

the river was named for the tar produced in the counties through which it flowed, while others suggest that the river's name is derived from a American Indian word.

**Continue on N.C. 42 for almost six miles** passing by vast farms to the town of Conetoe, (pronounced Cuh-knee-ta), incorporated in 1887 and named for the nearby Conetoe Creek. **Continue on N.C. 42, cross U.S. 64, and travel eight miles to the Edgecombe/Martin County line.** Many of the vast fields the byway passes produce soybeans and peanuts.

**Continue another 2.5 miles to the N.C. 42/142 intersection with N.C. 11. Go straight at the stop sign to follow N.C. 142 for 2.5 miles** to the community of Hassell. Hassell, settled in 1878, was known as Dogville Crossroads until 1903. **Continue on N.C. 142 through Hassell 3.5 miles to the intersection of N.C. 142 and N.C. 125.** From Hassell to Williamston, the road crosses land drained by the Conoho Creek, a tributary of the Roanoke River located to the north.

**Turn right at the stop sign onto N.C. 125 and continue for nine miles to the Williamston city limits in Martin**

**County, where the route ends.** Along this portion of the route, notice the numerous peanut sheds and silos. Peanuts are this region's main crop.

Williamston, named in honor of Col. William Williams who fought in the Revolutionary War, is located on the Roanoke River and is the Martin County seat. Settled in 1779, the town originally was called Skewarky for the plantation on which it was built. From Williamston, it is 14 miles to Windsor on U.S. 17 North where the Edenton-Windsor Loop Scenic Byway (pg. 125) begins or 23 miles to Washington along U.S. 64 East to the western terminus of the Pamlico Scenic Byway (pg. 130).



**Length: 53 miles**  
**Drive Time: One hour**  
**Counties: Wilson, Edgecombe and Martin**

